

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton is  
2 marking the 180th anniversary of its founding with a Charter  
3 Celebration on April 11 and 12, 2025; and

4 WHEREAS, The oldest continually operating university in  
5 Texas, UMHB traces its roots to February 1, 1845, when the Ninth  
6 Congress of the Republic of Texas approved the charter for a new  
7 Baptist university in Independence; the school was initially  
8 established with a preparatory division and coeducational classes,  
9 and in 1851, separate female and male departments were created; the  
10 female department became Baylor Female College in 1866, and in  
11 1886, the school was relocated to Belton; that same year, the male  
12 department consolidated with Waco University, retaining the name  
13 Baylor University; and

14 WHEREAS, Through the years, the school underwent several name  
15 changes, including Baylor College for Women in 1925, Mary  
16 Hardin-Baylor College in 1934, and the University of Mary  
17 Hardin-Baylor in 1978; among its many historic milestones, it  
18 served as a model for the Baptist Student Union in 1920, established  
19 the first school of journalism in a women's college in the United  
20 States in 1921, and became the first Texas Baptist college to be  
21 accepted as a full member of the Southern Association of Colleges  
22 and Schools in 1926; in 1971, the school became coeducational; and

23 WHEREAS, Today, UMHB boasts an enrollment of approximately  
24 3,400 students and employs more than 400 full-time faculty and

1 staff; moreover, the school has remained dedicated to Christian  
2 higher education and has distinguished itself as a leading  
3 institution in the fields of business, nursing, education, and  
4 church leadership; and

5 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the University of Mary  
6 Hardin-Baylor has provided its students with an education that has  
7 enriched them both academically and spiritually, and in so doing,  
8 it has made important contributions to Texas and the world beyond;  
9 now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the 180th anniversary of the  
12 University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and extend to the UMHB community  
13 sincere best wishes for a memorable and meaningful celebration;  
14 and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for the university as an expression of high regard by the  
17 Texas House of Representatives.

Hickland

H.R. No. 249

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 249 was adopted by the House on March 6, 2025, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House